

Application No. 09/659,194
Attorney Docket No. 11520US03

REMARKS

The present application includes claims 30-45 and 49-64. Claims 31-44 and 50-63 were objected to by the Examiner, but found to be otherwise allowable. Claims 30, 45, 49, and 64 were rejected. By this Amendment, claims 30, 45, 49, and 64 have been canceled, claims 31 and 50 have been amended, and new claims 68-81 have been added.

Claims 31-44 and 50-63 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were found to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Consequently, claims 31, 45, 50, and 64 have been rewritten in independent form and are respectfully submitted to be allowable.

New claims 68-81 have been added. New claims 68-81 are highly similar to allowable claims 50-63, but express the claim limitations in structural language, rather than means-plus-function language as recited in allowable claims 50-63. Consequently, new claims 68-81 are also respectfully submitted to be allowable.

Claims 30 and 49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Gudmundson, U.S. Patent No. 5,790,516. Claims 30 and 49 have been canceled.

Claims 45 and 64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gudmundson in view of Isaksson, U.S. Patent No. 5,812,523. Claims 45 and 64 have been canceled.

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CONCLUSION

The Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of the present application are in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or the Applicant can be of any assistance, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the Applicant at the number below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joseph M. Barich
Registration No. 42,291

MCANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD.
500 West Madison Street, 34th Floor
Chicago, IL 60661

Telephone: (312) 775-8000
Facsimile: (312) 775-8100